APPENDIX: VERSION TO SHOW CHANGES MADE IN AMENDMENT

In the Claims:

1. (Amended) [A method for the diagnosis of a single] An assay for detecting a nucleotide polymorphism in the human VCAM-1 gene [in a human], which method comprises determining the nucleic acid sequence [of the nucleic acid of the human] at one or more of positions 278, 647, 707, 748, 829 and 1467 in the VCAM-1 gene as defined by the positions in EMBL ACCESSION NO. M92431[, and determining the status of the human by reference to polymorphism in the VCAM-1 gene].

2. (Amended) [A method for diagnosis according to] The assay of claim 1 in which the [single] nucleotide polymorphism[s are further defined as] is selected from the group consisting of:

the [single nucleotide] polymorphism at position 278 is the presence of T and/or C;

the [single nucleotide] polymorphism at position 647 is the presence of A and/or G;

the [single nucleotide] polymorphism at position 707 is the presence of T and/or C;

the [single nucleotide] polymorphism at position 748 is the presence of T and/or C;

the [single nucleotide] polymorphism at position 829 is the presence of G and/or A; and

the [single nucleotide] polymorphism at position 1467 is the presence of T and/or C.

3. (Amended) [A method for diagnosis] The assay according to claim 1 or 2 in which the nucleic acid sequence is determined by a method selected from the group consisting of an amplification refractory mutation system and restriction fragment length polymorphism.

4. (Amended) [A] An isolated and purified nucleic acid comprising any one of the following polymorphisms:

the nucleic acid of EMBL ACCESSION No. M92431 with C at position 278 [in the promoter sequence as defined by the position in EMBL ACCESSION No. M92431];

the nucleic acid of EMBL ACCESSION No. M92431 with G at position 647 [in the promoter sequence as defined by the position in EMBL ACCESSION No. M92431];

the nucleic acid of EMBL ACCESSION No. M92431 with C at position 707 [in the promoter sequence as defined by the position in EMBL ACCESSION No. M92431];

the nucleic acid of EMBL ACCESSION No. M92431 with C at position 748 [in the promoter sequence as defined by the position in EMBL ACCESSION No. M92431];

the nucleic acid of EMBL ACCESSION No. M92431 with A at position 829 [in the promoter sequence as defined by the position in EMBL ACCESSION No. M92431];

the nucleic acid of EMBL ACCESSION No. M92431 with C at position 1467 [in the promoter sequence as defined by the position in EMBL ACCESSION No. M92431];
or a complementary strand thereof comprising at least one polymorphism or a fragment thereof of at least 20 bases comprising at least one polymorphism.

6. (Amended) An allele specific primer [capable of detecting] that specifically detects a VCAM-1 gene polymorphism at one or more of positions 278, 647, 707, 748, 829 and 1467 in the VCAM-1 gene as defined by the positions in EMBL ACCESSION NO. M92431.

7. (Amended) An allele-specific oligonucleotide probe [capable of detecting] that specifically detects a VCAM-1 gene polymorphism at one or more of positions 278, 647, 707, 748, 829 and 1467 in the VCAM-1 gene as defined by the positions in EMBL ACCESSION NO. M92431.

M92431

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